



*Fall  
2004*



# HOOSIER SAFETY

A Publication of

The Indiana State Emergency Management Agency  
and Department of Fire and Building Services

## ***2004 Emergency Medical Services Commission Awards***

***Annual Awards Presented During The Indiana Emergency Response Conference  
Banquet***



***Color Photograph of the Year  
Taken by Roger Birchfield, Assistant Public  
Information Officer, for the Indianapolis Fire  
Department (IFD). The photograph captures  
IFD personnel extricating a victim from a  
crashed tour bus involved in a chain reaction  
accident in Indianapolis on northbound I-65  
and I-70. Thirty-eight people were injured, but  
none seriously.***



***Black and White Photograph of the Year  
Photograph taken by Cliff Weaver, the Search  
Manager, from the Ohio Valley Search and  
Rescue team, Evansville, Indiana. His picture  
shows members of the Ohio Valley Search and  
Rescue team assisting in a search in southern  
Indiana for a girl missing from a motor vehicle  
accident.***

See "Awards" page 2

## I N S I D E

● See the Ambulance Competition Results on Pages 5 to 7

● Homeland Security 7 ● Hoosier Guardian Exercise 8 ● Another Disaster Declaration 8

**"Awards" from page 1****Ambulance Provider Public Relations Award**

**Winner:** Harrison County Hospital  
Emergency Medical Service

*Sponsored by the Indiana Emergency Medical Services  
for Children Advisory Committee*

This award is for the hospital's efforts to educate the public about Emergency Medical Services (EMS) including how to access emergency care, what services are available, and how you can keep yourself safe.

**David J. Edwards Memorial  
Instructor of the Year Award**

**Winner:** Cathy Harris, Parkview Hospital,  
Fort Wayne

*Sponsored by Community Hospitals of Indiana*

This award recognizes a Primary Instructor (PI) for contributions to Emergency Medical Services (EMS) education, the general community, and the promotion of EMS awareness.

**EMS for Children Award**

**Winner:** Dennis Young,  
Care Ambulance Service, Indianapolis

*Sponsored by the Indiana Emergency Medical Services  
for Children Advisory Committee*

This award recognizes those contributions, which are above and beyond the normal day to day experiences when dealing with pediatrics specifically and to a responder that has made the difference in the life of a child.

**Otis R. Bowen, M.D. Heroic Rescue Award**

**Winner:** Robert Williams, Flight Paramedic of Air Evac  
Lifeteam, Washington

*Sponsored by Community Hospitals of Indiana*

This award is given in recognition of an event that demonstrates a degree of courage and bravery while at the same time showing an understanding of the seriousness of the situation and the risks involved.

Late in the evening of April 20th, Air Evac Lifeteam 17 crashed while making a transfer from Huntingburg, Indiana to Evansville, Indiana. All three crew were either seriously or critically injured in the crash. The patient did not survive. The crash occurred in a remote area of Warrick County, Indiana, and it was not seen by any witnesses. It is not known if or for how long any of the crewmembers were unconscious.

Because the aircraft was seriously damaged making the radio system unusable, Flight Paramedic Robert Williams used his personal cell phone to place a call to the company operational headquarters in West Plains, Missouri. He told them that the aircraft had crashed and that he was unsure of the location. The only visible

landmark was a flashing white light on a tower about five air-miles away. Immediately, the company's emergency plan was initiated and all 911 agencies in Warrick and southern Dubois counties were activated.

The dispatcher was not sure if Robert was lucid because his speech was slurred. He did not know that Robert had sustained significant facial and mandibular fractures. Other injuries included a fractured arm, a digit amputation, and severe abdominal pain. Robert stayed on the phone while he assessed the pilot Rick LaRock, who was trapped, and the flight nurse Steve Ritchey, who had a serious head injury. In the darkness, Robbie moved between the pilot and the nurse giving care as he was able, controlling bleeding from the nurse's head injury and trying to keep him conscious.

About fifty minutes later, Robert could hear helicopters overhead and see flashing emergency lights on distant roads. The rescuers were unable to see the crash site because of the darkness. Robert found a small flashlight attached to the nurses flight suit and used it to signal the aircraft flying above.

As soon as the aircraft landed the battery in Robert's cell phone went dead.

For close to an hour Robert used one hand to hold the cell phone and the other to treat his coworkers then held a flashlight to the sky to mark his location. He communicated valuable information in spite of serious facial injuries.

A coworker was quoted as saying, "My definition of a hero is an ordinary person doing extra-ordinary things."

**Dispatcher of the Year Award**

**Winner:** Clayton "Clay" Carter, Huntington County  
Sheriff Department

*Sponsored by POWER PHONE, Inc.*

Clay has served as a dispatcher for twenty-two years, and he has served as the chief dispatcher under four sheriffs. He currently supervises twelve full-time and two part-time dispatchers.

**Individual of the Year Awards**

*The following individual awards are given in recognition of contributions above and beyond the normal day to day experiences. Contributions to the EMS industry through dedication, service, and leadership and to the community through promotion of EMS awareness, education, and volunteer activities are considered in the selection of the recipients.*

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**“Awards”** *from page 2***EMT Basic of the Year Award**

**Winner:** Vernon McGaha, Cordry-Sweetwater  
Volunteer Fire Department, Nineva

***Sponsored by Community Hospitals of Indiana***

Vernon has served his community as an EMT for over twenty-five years. He demonstrates his skills on a daily basis by responding to every incident he can. He also serves his community as a deputy sheriff. He promotes EMS training to local EMTs and firefighters. Through his emphasis on personal safety he makes sure the EMS personnel are protected from hazards on the job.

Vernon is active in the local community as a leader for an Explorer Post; he has been elected to the local Conservancy Board, is a member of the Brown County Sheriff's Association, and the EMT Association of Brown County.

**Frank D. Gilbert, Jr. Memorial  
Paramedic of the Year Award**

**Winner:** G. Lee Turpin, II,  
AMR Ambulance Service, Evansville

***Sponsored by Community Hospitals of Indiana***

Lee works for three different ambulance organizations. He is actively involved in Quality Insurance programs designed to improve patient care. He is certified as an instructor for Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS), Basic Trauma Life Support (BTLS), Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS), University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC), Critical Care Paramedic, Indiana Emergency Vehicle Operations Course, and Traumatic Brain Injury. He serves as the site manager for his company's on-line clearing house of clinical information and educational tools for a nationwide network of clinical and educational services coordinators.

Lee is known for his ability to calm his patients and his ability to communicate with others. He has been a volunteer fire fighter for over thirteen years. He also assists emergency departments as an interpreter for the deaf, and he has been appointed to the Governor's Indiana Child Fatality Review Committee.

**Medical Director of the Year Award**

**Winner:** Thomas Dagney, Doctor Osteopathy, of Knox  
County

***Sponsored by Community Hospitals of Indiana***

Doctor Dagney received the first Medical Director of the Year Award which recognizes contributions to the advancement of patient care protocols, leadership in promoting the importance of pre-hospital care, and for exhibiting an attitude of professionalism in the

relationships between provider affiliations, EMS personnel, other members of the medical community, and the public.

***Provider of the Year Awards***

***The EMS Provider awards are given in recognition of providers which provide for and promote professional growth opportunities for their employees in addition to promoting EMS awareness throughout their community. These organizations serve the community through volunteer efforts, participate in disaster planning, and work in harmony with the medical community.***

**Certified Rescue Squad of the Year Award**

**Winner:** Ohio Valley Search and Rescue,  
Evansville

***Sponsored by Deaconess Hospital, Evansville***

This award is given in recognition of providers that provide for and promote professional growth opportunities for their employees in addition to promoting Emergency Medical Services (EMS) awareness throughout their community. These organizations serve the community through volunteer efforts, participate in disaster planning, and work in harmony with the medical community.

**BLS Non-Transport****Provider of the Year Award**

**Winner:** The Freelandville Volunteer Fire Department

The Freelandville Volunteer Fire Department is a small, rural, volunteer fire department. Its members are actively involved in attending joint, monthly training and megacode sessions with other departments in the area. The department has led efforts to “pre-plan” response to a large, consolidated high school in its area. The members train regularly with staff of a local nursing facility.

**EMT Basic Provider of the Year Award**

**Winner:** Eastern Volunteer Fire Department,  
Solsberry

The department offers to pay for any training successfully completed by any of its members. Seven members of the department are CPR and first aid instructors who provide classes at the local YMCA. They provide free stand-by service at all local high school baseball, basketball, and football events. The department also provides a back-up response for the county operated ambulance service.

**EMT Basic-Advanced Provider of the Year Award**

**Winner:** Southwestern Emergency Medical Service,  
Jasonville

*See “Awards” page 4*



## “Awards” from page 3

Southwestern Emergency Medical Service maintains an active in-service program for its employees including such topics as CPR-Instructor, Sudden Infant Death Syndrome, Blood Borne Pathogen Instructor, Hazardous Materials Instructor, Race Car Medical Technician, and Extrication.

Southwestern Emergency Medical Service also provides programs offered to the community which include working with nursing facilities to keep them abreast of changes in EMS skills and capabilities, assistance in organizing blood drives, performing mock accidents at schools, and free blood pressure checks.

The department is active in local disaster planning and has disaster mutual aid agreements with many other response agencies. This organization works closely with its supervising hospital. Southwestern Emergency Medical Service has appointed a Liaison/Training Officer who visits each hospital and care facility on a regular basis, discussing problems, answering questions, and assisting them with their training needs.

### **EMT Intermediate Provider of the Year Award**

*This is the first year for this award.*

**Winner:** New Albany Fire Department,  
New Albany

The New Albany Fire Department maintains a close relationship with its supervising hospital, assisting it in planning for the first Intermediate class in the area. The EMS personnel are active in the community providing CPR and first aid classes, assisting with fire safety programs for youth, visiting local schools for ambulance walk-through programs, and speaking at local functions, promoting EMS and fire safety.

The New Albany Fire Department became certified as a BLS provider in the late 1970's. It was a participant in the first pilot program for Advanced EMT's, it instituted BLS Non-Transport response in 1995, and was the first fire department ambulance service in the state to obtain EMT-Intermediate Provider certification as its highest level.

### **Paramedic Provider of the Year Award**

**Winner:** Perry County Memorial Hospital EMS, Tell City  
*Sponsored by Rural Metro of Indiana.*

Perry County Memorial Hospital EMS reimburses all employees for tuition for EMS training. BLS, ACLS, and PALS are offered in-house. Other benefits include free lab screening and ECGs, long term disability insurance, and a retirement plan with a 3% match.

The organization offers many programs to the community including Operation Prom, Celebrate Safe (a

drug and alcohol abuse educational program), Home Safety for the Elderly, and a Heart Attack Alert program. Among the staff of 14 are six BLS instructors, three ACLS instructors, two PALS instructors, one PI, and three PI candidates.

Perry County Memorial Hospital EMS maintains a large Mass Casualty Incident and Command Kit, trains all first responders, and participates in exercises conducted by the local Emergency Management Agency. This organization was certified in 1986 as an advanced provider and became certified as a paramedic organization in 1993. Perry County Memorial Hospital EMS is an organization that takes great pride in contributing to the quality of life of the citizens in its county.

### **Larry W. Myers Memorial Award for Professionalism and Mental Attitude**

**Winners:** Troy Nicholson and Jason Roseberry  
Washington County Emergency Medical Service  
*Sponsored by the Indiana Ambulance Association*

The **Larry Myers Memorial Award** was established in 1980 in memory of Larry Myers, the first president of the Indiana Ambulance Association and founder of Myers Ambulance Service. Governor Otis Bowen asked Larry to set up the first statewide Emergency Medical Technician classes which were taught at the Indiana Vocational Technical College. In 1972, Larry was appointed by Governor Bowen to the Governor's Emergency Medical Services Committee, a group whose purpose was to draft the original legislation, which resulted in the formation of the Indiana Emergency Medical Services Commission. Larry also worked on the rules and regulations that govern the ambulance services throughout the state of Indiana. The Emergency Medical Services Community lost an important friend and voice when Larry became ill and met an untimely death in 1980. Mr. Myers' multiple contributions to ambulance services throughout the state of Indiana were recognized through the creation of the Larry Myers Memorial Award by the Indiana Ambulance Association. Since 1981, this award has been presented annually at the Indiana EMS Conference.

Anyone entered into the annual Governor's Cup Ambulance Service Competition is automatically considered for the Larry Myers Memorial Award. Troy and Jason, as the other participants in this year's competition, were judged upon the following criteria: dedication, performance, under stress, commitment to EMS, desire to serve, and a positive mental attitude. This marks the 24th Anniversary for the presentation of this award.

*See the Results of the Ambulance Competition Finals on Page 5*

**2004 ANNUAL GOVERNOR'S CUP AMBULANCE SERVICE PROVIDER COMPETITION****COMPETITION SCENARIOS**

In the preliminary ambulance competition, participants were called to the scene of an injured football player. The 40 something patient was playing football and got hit in the back. He thought he was OK and decided to go back into the game. He got hit again, went down, and could not get up. The patient presented with progressive paralysis starting with his feet and over time going up the legs and into the chest. Crews needed to figure out how and if they should remove the football helmet and shoulder pads. There was an athletic trainer on the scene that was available for assistance.

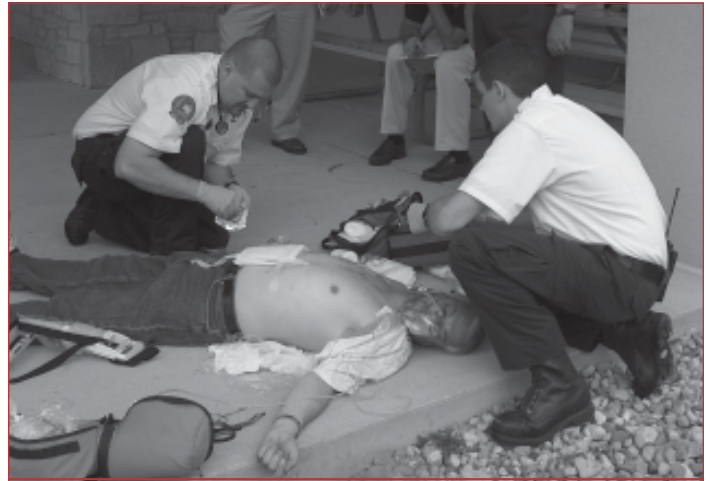
There were 32 teams vying for the final 12 slots (three teams in four different emergency medical technician skill levels) in the competition.

In the finals scenario, the 12 teams were called to the scene of a shooting. There was an attempted bank robbery. There was a shoot out between the victim (the robber) and a security officer. The victim had gun shot wounds to the chest, abdomen and also had been grazed by a bullet on the forehead. The Security Officer had received a superficial gunshot wound in the exchange of fire. The scene was secured by a second security officer and a few minutes into the scenario a third officer with EMS training arrived on the scene. Crews needed to make sure the scene was safe before entering and decide how to handle the two patients.

Our thanks go to Duane Ginder and Mike Mathney in the preliminary round and Bill Hufford, John Zartman, and Chad Garner in the finals for their excellent role-playing.



*John Zartman keeps the scene "secure" during finals*

**EMT Basic - Finals Competition**

*Basic EMT 1<sup>st</sup> Place - Carroll County EMS  
Todd Kinzer and Adam Randle*



*Basic EMT 2<sup>nd</sup> Place - Franklin Twp Fire Department  
Michael Anderson and Keith Schlenz*



*Basic EMT 3<sup>rd</sup> Place - Knox County EMS  
Patrick Glass and Joseph Millspaugh Jr.*



**2004 ANNUAL GOVERNOR'S CUP AMBULANCE SERVICE PROVIDER COMPETITION** - Cont'd**Basic – Advanced Finals Competition**

**1<sup>st</sup> Place - Parkview Huntington Hospital**  
**Brian Miller and Roger Buckner**



**2<sup>nd</sup> Place - Washington County Mem Hosp**  
**Chris Burdine and Tammy Lipcovich**



**3<sup>rd</sup> Place - Parkview Huntington Hospital**  
**Diane Kohr and Jeff White**

**Intermediate Finals Competition**

**1<sup>st</sup> Place - Southwest Medical Service**  
**Sarah Elrod and Denise Arnold**



**2<sup>nd</sup> Place - Knox County EMS**  
**Debbie Schmitknecht and Mike Brock**



**3<sup>rd</sup> Place - Knox County EMS**  
**Myron Mackey and Donald Mundy**

## **2004 ANNUAL GOVERNOR'S CUP AMBULANCE SERVICE PROVIDER COMPETITION - Cont'd**

### **Paramedic Finals Competition**



***1<sup>st</sup> Place - Jackson County EMS  
Valleri Curry and Michael Medlock***



***2<sup>nd</sup> Place - Fulton County EMS  
Joe Sears (center) and Kenny Swafford***



***3<sup>rd</sup> Place - Cass County EMS  
Gloria Layer and Shirley Griffith***

## **STATE OFFICIALS HIGHLIGHT HOMELAND SECURITY AND INTRODUCE DISTRICTS**

Indiana observed National Preparedness Month in September by starting a series of 10 informational meetings featuring the directors of the Indiana State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA), Indiana's Counter Terrorism and Security Council (CTASC), and Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH) on the state's homeland security efforts.

In addition to sharing information on homeland security programs administered by the state, officials introduced Indiana's 10 homeland security districts. The districts will assist state and local government in developing homeland security plans.

"The state of Indiana recognizes the importance of keeping its citizens informed about homeland security efforts in their communities and around the state," said Lt. Gov. Kathy Davis, who serves as the chair of CTASC. "We are listening to Hoosiers' concerns, and giving them an opportunity to learn more about our day-to-day activities. State government is working hard to keep Hoosiers safe by safeguarding against bio-terrorism, training first responders and developing unique information-sharing tools through initiatives such as the Indiana Alert Network."

Each agency involved discussed the homeland security programs it administers.

SEMA administers the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Office of Domestic Preparedness funding to responders around the state.

"Our goal is to ensure the safety of all Hoosiers by assisting communities in planning, training and exercising," said Luther J. Taylor, Sr., SEMA's Executive Director. "Locals are the first to respond to an incident. We want to ensure they are aware of the resources available and work with them to obtain the best equipment available."

CTASC, Indiana's homeland security coordinating agency, highlighted the Indiana Alert Network (IAN). IAN is an alert notification tool using internet-based applications that allows for the quick dissemination of information, via various communication tools, on Indiana's critical infrastructure to registered users.

"Indiana's homeland security efforts must include sound planning and reliable information to be effective," said Earl Morgan, Director of CTASC. "We feel strongly both IAN and Indiana's homeland security districts make



## “HOMELAND” *from page 7*

positive contributions in those areas.”

“We are pleased to have this opportunity to discuss Indiana’s efforts in public health preparedness and bio-terrorism response,” said State Health Commissioner Greg Wilson, M.D. “With the help of our stakeholders, most notably the local health departments, we have made much progress in the last several years. Whether the response to an incident involves anthrax or hepatitis A, a coordinated community effort is essential and that is what we are building together.”

The agencies also recognized the assistance of their various federal partners. CTASC, the state’s liaison to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS), currently operates the Indiana Alert Network, a DHS pilot program. In addition, the bio-terrorism preparedness grants administered by the State Department of Health are funded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

## ANOTHER DISASTER DECLARATION FOR INDIANA

Holidays and disasters seem to go together in Indiana. A second Presidential Disaster Declaration this year was granted in late August for communities in 20 Indiana counties that were hard hit by severe storms, high winds and tornadoes on or around Independence Day. Earlier this year, Memorial Day storms triggered a declaration. Last year, 4th of July and Labor Day storms resulted in declarations.

Public Assistance (PA) was granted for damage suffered in Clark, Clay, Crawford, Daviess, Dubois, Gibson, Greene, Harrison, Martin, Orange, Owen, Parke, Perry, Pike, Putnam, Scott, Spencer, Sullivan, Vermillion, and Warren counties between July 3 and July 18. Damage estimates are more than \$6 million.

The declaration makes money available for federal funding to pay the state and affected local governments and certain private nonprofit organizations 75 percent of the approved costs for the repair or replacement of damaged facilities. The funding also covers eligible state and local government costs for debris removal and emergency services related to the disaster. In addition, federal funds also will be available to the state on a cost-shared basis for approved projects that reduce future disaster risks.

The cost of the Memorial Day storms has now passed \$28.6 million including \$16.7 million for SBA loans, \$4.9 million in Individual Assistance (IA) and \$7 million in PA.. In that series of storms, 68 counties were designated for IA and 18 for PA.

## HOOSIER GUARDIAN IV

The grounds of the Muscatatuck Developmental Center in Jennings County showed their promise as an anti-terrorism training facility in early October when a dozen state and local agencies participated in *Hoosier Guardian IV*.

Participants included:

- Indiana Department of Environmental Management
- Indiana Department of Natural Resources
- Indiana National Guard- State Headquarters & Serious Incident Reaction Force
- Indiana State Emergency Management Agency
- Indiana State Fire Marshal
- Indiana State Police
- Jennings County EMS
- Jennings County Fire Services
- Jennings County Sheriff
- Madison Township Hazardous Materials Team (Jennings County)
- North Vernon Police Department
- Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES)

The purpose was test coordination between agencies in the event of an actual incident. The scenario involved anti-war rioting, a suicide bombing, a chemical attack and a hostage situation.

Exercises like Hoosier Guardian will become more frequent in the coming years. Through a Memorandum of Understanding between the state of Indiana, the Military Department of Indiana and Purdue University, the state will transfer 850 acres including the Muscatatuck State Development Center facility, as well as the Brush Creek reservoir and an additional tract of land south of the reservoir for use as a training center to be operated by the Indiana National Guard when the present Developmental Center closes on January 1, 2005.



**The Madison Township Hazardous Materials Team (Jennings County) Demonstrates its Readiness**